

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings includes changes to FIGS.1-5, as follows:

The changes to FIG. 1 include: removal of reference number 101, and changes to the lead lines of 111 and 113.

In FIG. 2 the reference numbers 211 and 231 have been corrected, they were reversed in the original.

In FIG. 3, reference number have been added to dual port RAM and PCI, and the underlining was removed from 307.

In FIG. 4, reference number 427 was removed.

In FIG. 5, the label "SPM Managed Object" was corrected to read "SPM Manager/Managed Object", and reference number 207 was changed to 209.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets
Annotated Sheets Showing Changes

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration of this application as amended.

The specification and drawings have been revised, where appropriate, to address the Examiner's objections to the drawings. Applicant wishes to point out that the following reference numbers are contained in the specification at the indicated paragraph numbers in the published application: 215 at paragraph 46; 409 at paragraph 62; 450 at paragraph 56; 460 at paragraph 62; and 835 at paragraph 71.

The specification has been editorially revised to place the application in better condition for issue. Claim 1 has been amended to address the alleged informality.

Claims 1-24 stand rejected and will be discussed below. New Claims 25-48 have been added to provide more comprehensive protection for Applicant's invention. Accordingly, Claims 1-48 are pending for further consideration.

Turning to the merits, the outstanding rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) is respectfully traversed. Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, a programmed data processor including embedded security policy manager functions for detecting communications which include characteristics which differ from characteristics of normal usage and sending an alarm to the security/encryption engine for communication to another node as said user transparent communications and for responding to user transparent communications from another node of said digital network to control routing of communications in said digital network. The applied reference (Schwed USP 5,606,668) fails to teach sending an alarm to a security/encryption engine for communication to

another node. Thus, Claim 1, and its dependents, distinguish patentably from Shwed and the rejection should be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is respectfully traversed. Claim 11 recites at least two locking devices at each of a plurality of nodes of said digital network, a security policy manager device for detecting network communications or activity having some characteristics different from characteristics of normal usage and providing a signal to another network node, and means responsive to a user transparent signal from another node for controlling said at least two locking devices to isolate a node. Neither Shipley nor Radia, taken individually or in combination, teaches or suggests the feature of providing a signal to another network node, and means responsive to a user transparent signal from another node found in Claim 11. Thus, Claim 11 and its dependents distinguish patentably from the cited references and the rejection should be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) is respectfully traversed. Claim 20 recites detecting communications having characteristics differing from characteristics of normal usage at a node of said digital network, communicating a user transparent signal to another node responsive to said detecting step, and controlling communications at said node from said another node with a user transparent signal. In other words, it is the other node that controls communications at the node where the communication with differing characteristics was detected. Shipley fails to teach or suggest the aforementioned feature of Claim 20. Accordingly, Claim 20 and its dependents distinguish patentably from Shipley and the rejection should be withdrawn.

As will be readily apparent, new Claims 25-48 distinguish even further from the cited references than the original claims. Thus, new independent claims 25, 35, and 44 are allowable for at least the reasons discussed above relative to independent claims 1, 11, and 20, respectively.

This application is in condition for allowance and Applicant respectfully requests passage to issue.

Should the Examiner believe that any further action is necessary to place this application in better form for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's representative at the telephone number listed below.

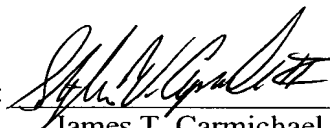
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 (T3497-9052US01) any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 22, 2005

Miles & Stockbridge, P.C.
1751 Pinnacle Drive
Suite 500
McLean, Virginia 22102-3833
(703) 903-9000

By:



James T. Carmichael
Reg. No. 45,306

Stephen W. Aycock II
Reg. No. 52,579

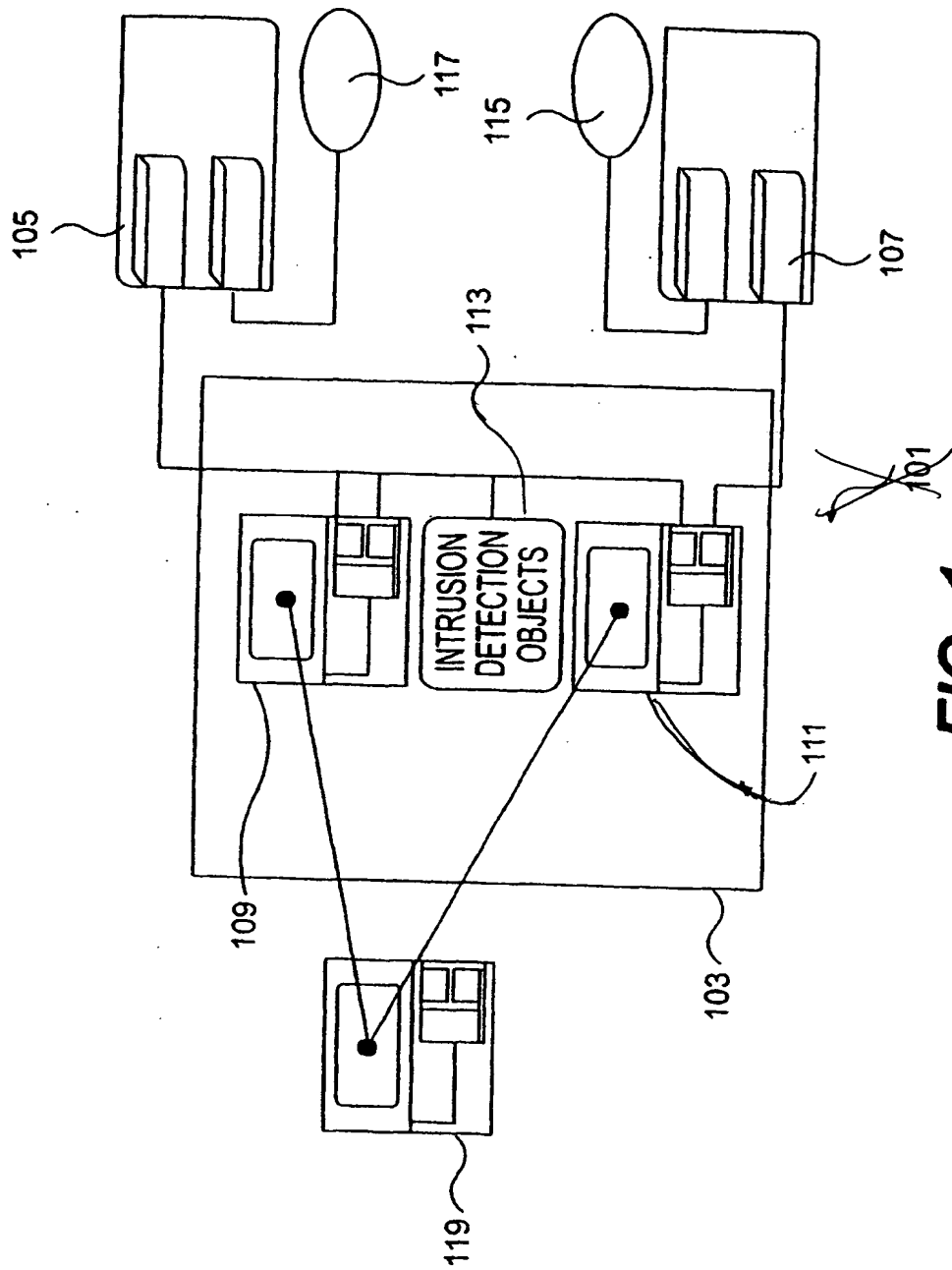


FIG. 1

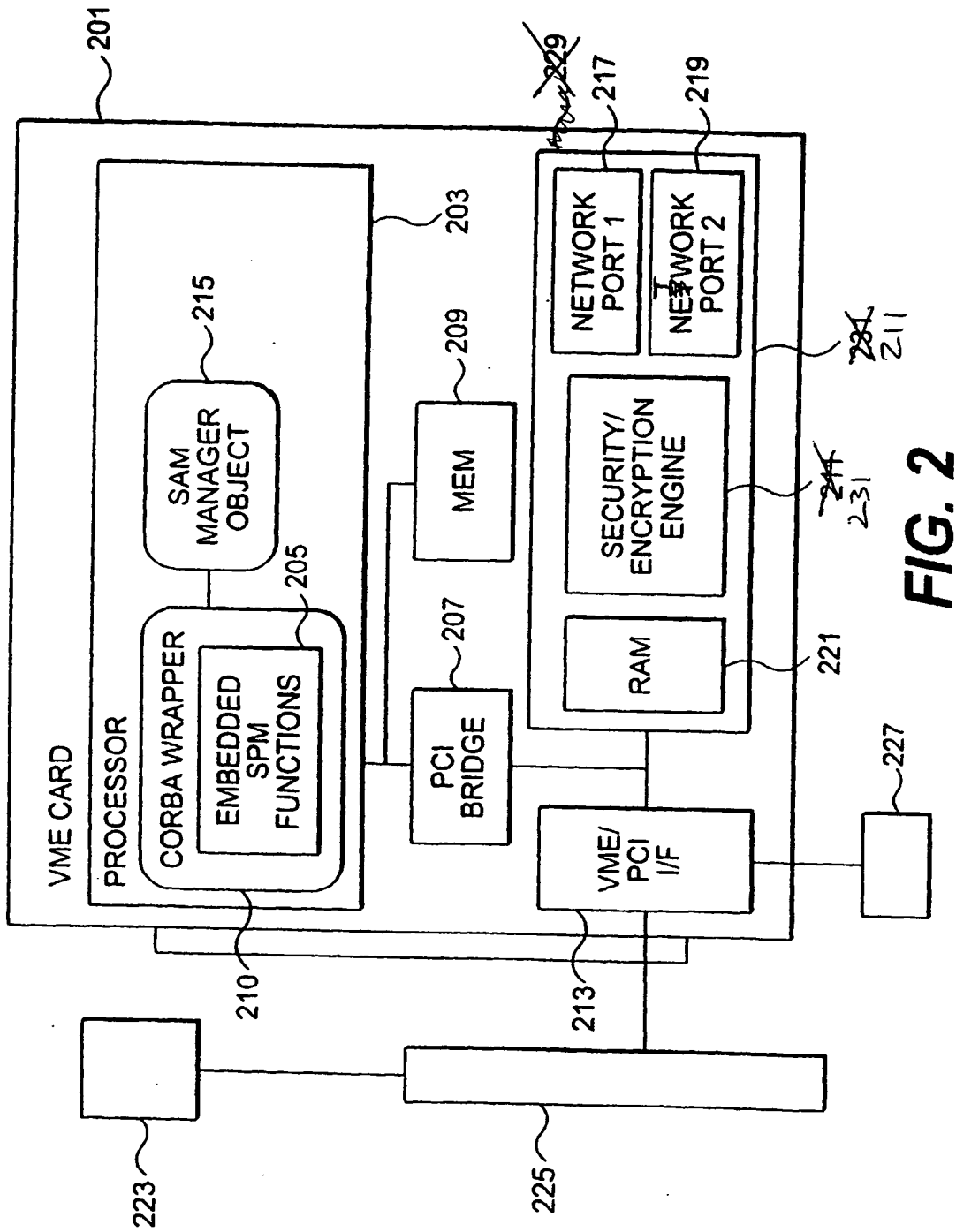


FIG. 2

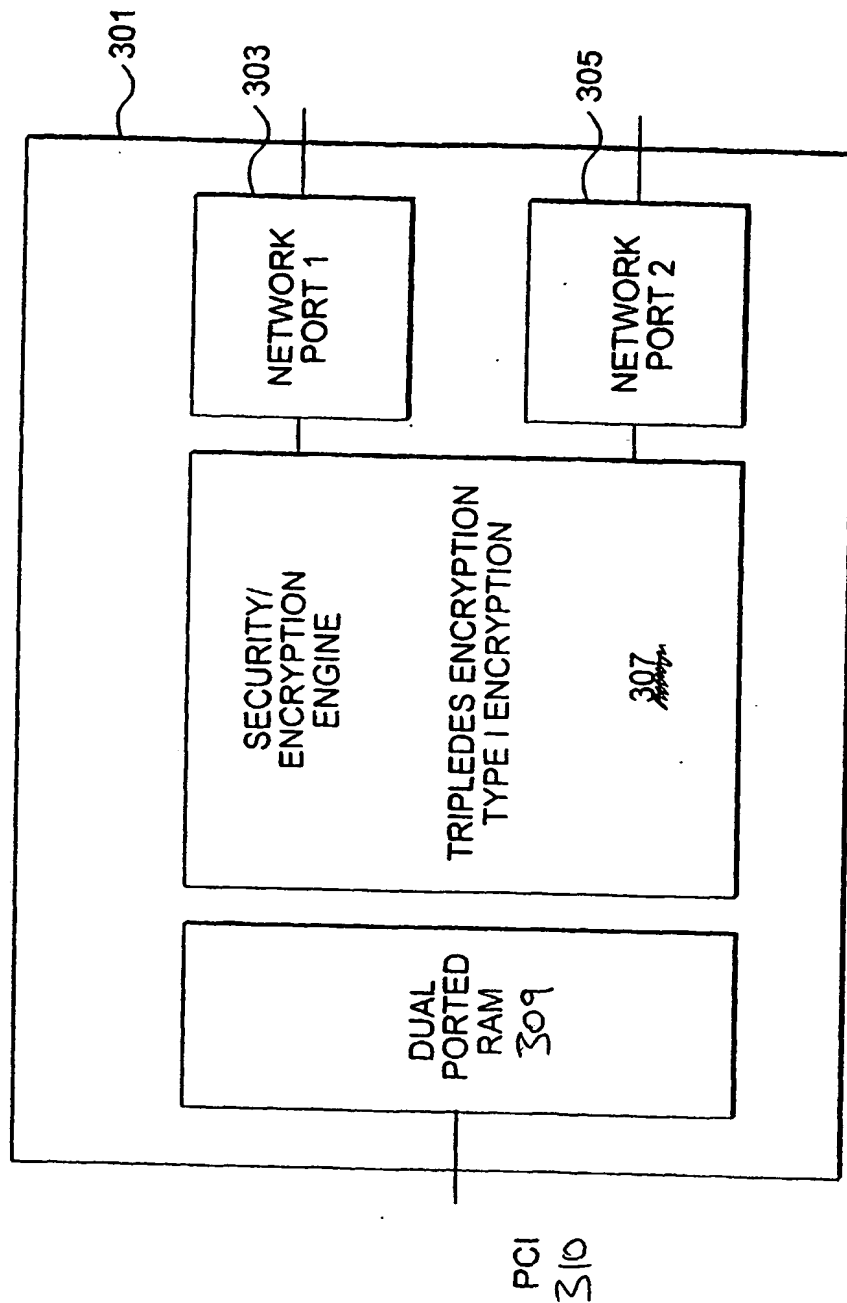


FIG. 3

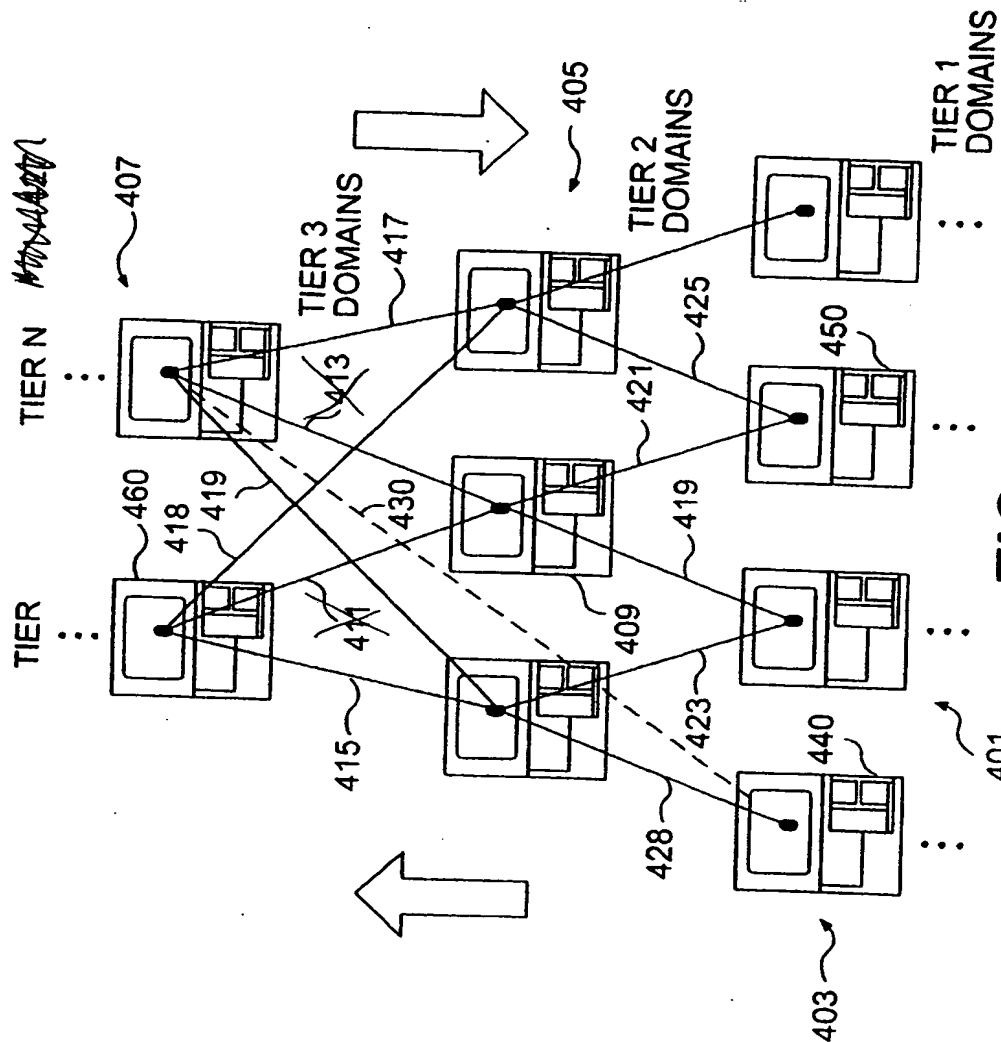


FIG. 4

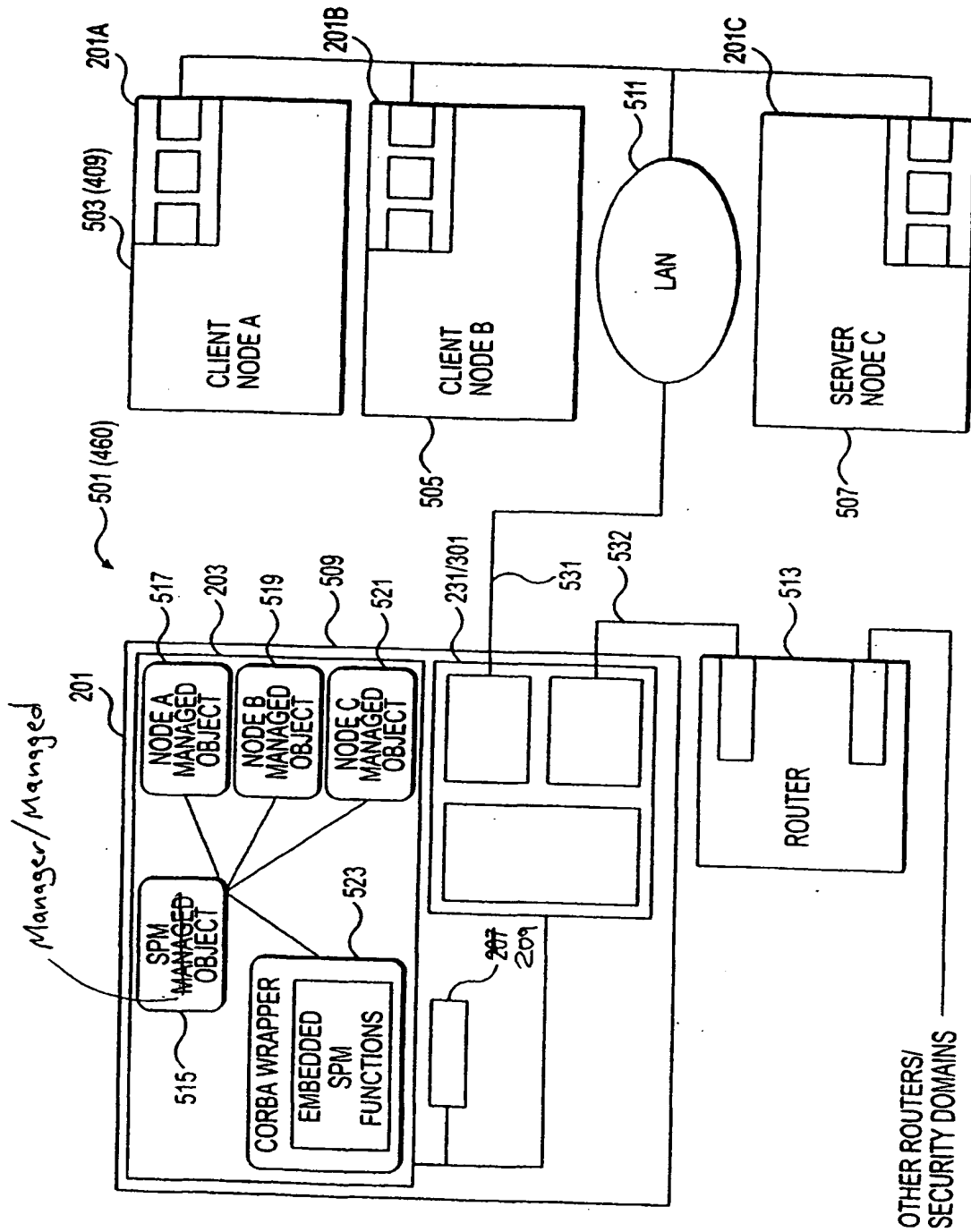


FIG. 5